

No. 03-21-00053-CV

---

**In the Court of Appeals for the  
Third District of Texas at Austin**

---

FILED IN  
3rd COURT OF APPEALS  
AUSTIN, TEXAS  
6/23/2021 6:50:05 AM  
JEFFREY D. KYLE  
Clerk

Mary Louise Serafine,  
*Appellant*

v.

Karin Crump, in her individual and official capacities as Presiding Judge of the 250th Civil District Court of Travis County, Texas; and Melissa Goodwin, in her individual and official capacities as Justice of the Third Court of Appeals at Austin, Texas; David Puryear and Bob Pemberton, in their individual capacities as former justices of the Third Court of Appeals at Austin, Texas,  
*Appellees*

---

**From the 345th Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas,  
Hon. Todd A. Blomerth, presiding,  
Cause No. D-1-GN-19-002601**

---

**REPLY IN SUPPORT OF APPELLANT'S OPPOSED MOTION FOR  
EXTENSION OF TIME TO FILE APPELLANT'S BRIEF**

---

TO THE HONORABLE THIRD COURT OF APPEALS:

On June 17, 2021, on behalf of Plaintiff/Appellant, we filed an  
opposed motion for a third extension of time to file Appellant's Brief that,

without the extension, was due on June 21, 2021.<sup>1</sup>

On that same date, some but not all Appellees—notably Justice Goodwin, *a sitting justice on this Court*, and Justices Puryear and Pemberton, *formerly of this same Court*—have actually filed a written opposition to the motion for extension. We now reply.

Appellee-Justices demonstrate again why our request to transfer this case to a neutral court of appeals should have been granted and should still be granted. Justice Goodwin—*while actually litigating Chapter 11 against Serafine*—wrote this Court’s recent opinion on the constitutionality of the statute in *Connor v. Hooks*. This gives the appearance of self-interest in the act of adjudicating. Today Justice Goodwin and her former close colleagues *make a request in their own court* “that this Court deny Serafine’s motion for extension as well as any future motions.” Response at 2. Not content merely to oppose the issue at hand, these justices ask that *their own court* additionally deny “any future motions.” Such a comment might have been made in any court, but cannot be made in their own. It gives the appearance of self-interested activity. It is emblematic of the

---

<sup>1</sup> And on the same day, June 21st, not learning of a decision by the deadline, but wishing to comply with the Court’s rules and deadlines, we timely filed an Appellant’s Brief. We also asked that, if the Court did grant the extension, we be allowed to amend.

motivation that undergirds the Justices’ bringing their vexatious litigant motion in the first place.

Still they go on. “It is logical to infer,” they advance, “that Serafine has been seeking multiple extensions of her challenge to the trial court declaring her vexatious in the hopes that the federal court would declare the statute unconstitutional, rendering this appeal unnecessary.” Response at 2. Nonsense. This is an *ad hominem* attack more than anything else, but even if federal courts could work that fast, Appellant has no need for delay.

The extension is fully justified and while we would have preferred to avoid a third request, it is hardly uncommon. Nothing in the Justices’ opposition suggests otherwise.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ John W. Vinson  
John W. Vinson  
Counsel of Record  
State Bar No. 20590010  
John W. Vinson, PLLC  
PO Box 301678  
Austin, TX 78703  
Tel: (512) 926-7380  
Email: johnvinsonatty@yahoo.com

/s/ Mary Lou Serafine  
Mary Louise Serafine  
State Bar No. 24048301  
Mary Louise Serafine,  
Attorney & Counselor at Law  
P.O. Box 4342  
Austin, Texas 78765  
Tel: 512-220-5452  
Email: serafine@mlserafine.com

*Attorneys for Appellant*

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

My signature below certifies that on the 22nd day of June, 2021, I served the

foregoing document on the parties listed below through the Court's electronic filing system.

Anthony J. Nelson, Esq., [tony.nelson@traviscountytexas.gov](mailto:tony.nelson@traviscountytexas.gov)

Patrick T. Pope, Esq., [patrick.pope@traviscountytexas.gov](mailto:patrick.pope@traviscountytexas.gov)

Office of Delia Garza, County Attorney, Travis County

P. O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767

(512) 854-9513/Fax (512) 854-4808

*Attorneys for Appellee the Hon. Karin Crump*

Courtney Corbello, Esq., [courtney.corbello@oag.texas.gov](mailto:courtney.corbello@oag.texas.gov)

Law Enforcement Defense Division, Office of the Attorney General

P.O. Box 12548, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711

(512) 463-2080 / Fax (512) 370-9374

*Attorney for Appellees the Hon. Melissa Goodwin,*

*the Hon. Bob Pemberton, and the Hon. David Puryear*

/s/ Mary Lou Serafine

Mary Louise Serafine

State Bar No. 24048301

### **Automated Certificate of eService**

This automated certificate of service was created by the eFiling system. The filer served this document via email generated by the eFiling system on the date and to the persons listed below. The rules governing certificates of service have not changed. Filers must still provide a certificate of service that complies with all applicable rules.

Mary Serafine on behalf of Mary Serafine  
Bar No. 24048301  
serafine@mlserafine.com  
Envelope ID: 54670552  
Status as of 6/23/2021 9:03 AM CST

#### **Case Contacts**

<b>Name</b>	<b>BarNumber</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>TimestampSubmitted</b>	<b>Status</b>
Courtney Corbello	24097533	courtney.corbello@oag.texas.gov	6/23/2021 6:50:05 AM	SENT
Anthony J. Nelson	14885800	tony.nelson@traviscountytexas.gov	6/23/2021 6:50:05 AM	SENT
John Willis Vinson	20590010	johnvinsonatty@yahoo.com	6/23/2021 6:50:05 AM	SENT
Patrick Pope	24079151	patrick.pope@traviscountytexas.gov	6/23/2021 6:50:05 AM	SENT
Mary Louise Serafine		serafine@mlserafine.com	6/23/2021 6:50:05 AM	SENT